

Reply Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.111  
Date: June 22, 2006

Serial No. 10/715,639  
Arty. Docket No. GP106-09.DV3

**Amendments to the Claims**

The current status of the claims is as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A collection device comprising:  
a fluid-holding vessel for holding a fluid substance, wherein the vessel comprises comprising  
an open end, a closed end and a side wall having an inner surface; and  
a specimen retrieval contained within the vessel; and  
a pierceable cap fixed onto the open end of the vessel, wherein the cap positions the having  
means for positioning a specimen retrieval device along the inner surface of the vessel, such that the  
specimen retrieval device does not significantly interfere with the movement of a fluid transfer  
device either into or out of the collection device when the cap is fixedly associated with the vessel.
2. (Original) The collection device of claim 1, wherein the specimen retrieval device  
is a swab having a handle member.
3. (Currently Amended) The collection device of claim 2, wherein the handle member  
includes a score line to facilitate removing a portion of the handle prior to ~~fixedly associating~~ fixing  
the cap with onto the open end of the vessel.
4. Canceled
5. (Currently Amended) The collection device of claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein the fluid transfer  
device is a plastic pipette tip.

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6. (Currently Amended) The collection device of claim 5, wherein ~~the penetrable portion of the cap can be penetrated~~ pierced by the pipette tip with the application of less than 8 pounds force.

7. (Currently Amended) The collection device of claim ~~4~~ further comprising 1, wherein the cap further comprises a wick for inhibiting the release of an aerosol or bubbles from the collection device.

8. (Original) The collection device of claim 7, wherein the wick is a pile fabric.

9. (Original) The collection device of claim 7, wherein the cap includes a seal for retaining the wick within the cap.

10. (Currently Amended) The collection device of claim ~~4~~ 1, wherein ~~the penetrable portion of the cap~~ has a generally conical inner wall that includes a plurality of radially extending striations.

11. (Currently Amended) The collection device of claim 1, wherein the cap and the vessel include mated threads and the cap is screwed onto the open end of the vessel.

12. Canceled

13. (Original) The collection device of claim 1, wherein the cap and the vessel are each formed from a plastic resin.

Claims 14-25 (Canceled)